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Human Rights Commission Minutes 01/29/2005

Human Rights Commission Meeting Minutes

January 19, 2005

(Final Copy)

In Attendance:

Sheri Baron, Marissa Briggett, Christine Carney, Christine Deshler, A. Nick Minton, Nancy Rhoads, Bill Shea, Nancy Sweeney

Absent:

Cecilia Akuffo, Kim Lam, Kevin McGann, James Webster

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 p.m.

- 1. The December minutes were approved and accepted**
- 2. Open Meeting Law - After much discussion regarding the handout provided by John Maher, we must go before the Selectmen and request their authority to move ahead with unwilling complainants - everything must be open and public - if a person is unwilling to provide names, etc. - we can respect that and may be able to take another direction for solution to their problem - our records can speak for how we handle the investigation - any sub-committee meeting will have to also be posted - the commission will have to take each case as it comes and work from there.**
- 3. Annual Report, 2004 – Marissa Briggett graciously accepted to update and send off the AHRC article for the Annual Report.**
- 4. Racial Profiling - we are planning May 17th for this event - more details to follow.**

Sensitivity Training - we are still working on coming up with a three-fold pamphlet of information on how employers should educate their employees on handling these types of problems in the workplace.

- 5. Survey - Only a handful of surveys were returned to the office by mail - but a container provided by the Clerk's Office collected over 150 returns, which were returned with census forms - these returns will be analyzed and a report will be given to the Commission next meeting. Nancy Sweeney will help Marylynn with this project - Nancy Rhoads spoke with Patsy Kraemer about placing the survey on the web site but too many obstacles have got in the way and it sounds like it's not a good idea at this time.**

6. Other Business:

- Nancy Sweeney will try to get the Library for Movie Night, Monday, March 21st, for viewing of "Afghanistan 1380."**

- Dialogue Sub-Committee will meet Monday, January 31st at 7:30 pm to coordinate Domestic Violence Evening.
- Janice Bakey invited the Commission to attend an event this Friday at the High School - Peter Uys, South African American Repertoire Theater, will speak on "Foreign Aids" at 12:30.
- Bill Shea will invite Brian Sullivan, our new Town Manager, to be a guest at one of our meetings.
- the Commission discussed the budget for this year and Sheri Baron is asking for ideas, suggestions and discussion on spending through the end of this fiscal year.
- alert to Commissioners that it's time to elect a new chairperson – February meeting
- Kim Lamb has resigned from the Commission

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Prepared and submitted by:

Marylynn Carnell
Staff Assistant